Students' Association
Film and Television Institute of India,
Law College Road,
Pune: 411004

Date – 17/09/2015

To,
Joint Secretary, Ministry of I&B
Government of India

Dear Sir,

In reference to your letter dated 16-09-2015 sent to the FTII Students' Association, we would like to clearly express that we are keen to resolve the current crisis amicably in the best interest of the institute and would like to proceed with your intend to hold a dialogue with us.

We respect your expectation of not having any preconditions towards the prospective dialogue, but we would like to sincerely request the same from your side as well. In that context, it is conducive for us to not have any references/preconditions specially from the meeting held on 25-07-2015 in the presence of the interlocutors Shri Vidhu Vinod Chopra and Shri Raju Hirani as mentioned in your letter. Referring to the ministry's remark in the letter with respect to the so called 'stiff preconditions' laid out by students post the above mentioned meeting, we would like to state that the solutions proposed by the ministry resulting from that meeting were not within the constitution of FTII for which the students were seeking clarity and assurance of the same (refer Annexure-I from your copy). Such a concern if is seen as ' stiff precondition' by the ministry is only disheartening. We would also like to officially clarify to the ministry that student representatives never gave any kind of commitments to the interlocutors to reside on them later in any capacity. We feel such misunderstandings are a result of lack of direct dialogues between the ministry and student representatives. The students of FTII are made to feel time and again, not just in the context of crisis at hand but also in the course of this institute's history that there has been a lack of proactive engagement consistently from the side of the ministry resulting into the present state of the institute plagued with various academic, human resource and infrastructural issues. When one such precious opportunity to interact came in the form of our respected panel of representatives meeting the highest authorities in the ministry on 03-07-2015, we were only left bitterly disappointed of its outcome.

Keeping all our past differences aside, we are still certain that the students interest to help cherish the vision of this institute is mirrored by the ministry as well. In that light, let us begin by restoring faith in each other, understand each other's concerns and arrive at concrete, constructive solutions. This can be initiated only through dialogue/s which we have always been keen on, this intent reflected in our numerous letters sent to the ministry in the past 98 days.

We would like to humbly request the ministry to not rely on stop gap arrangements but work together amicably to resolve the crisis systematically which shall help avoid such unfortunate situations in the future and academics can flourish smoothly in FTII.

Looking forward for further details on the prospective meeting as mentioned in your letter.

Thanks,

HarishankarNachimuthu
President
Students' Association, FTII